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Instructors of online courses can benefit from new class

AUGUST 14, 2006

Current and future online instructors have a chance to improve their teaching skills and see online education from a student's point of view.

Georgia Southern University's Continuing Education Center is offering a 10-week course called 'Facilitating Learning Online.' Running from Sept. 11 through Nov. 17, the course will feature an online format allows participants to study and submit homework according to their own schedules.

During the course, participants will communicate in online discussion areas and work in online groups. They should be able to commit at least four to six hours per week for class activities.

The course was developed as a faculty training workshop by the University System of Georgia (USG) Advanced Learning Technologies staff. Joseph Barjis, a professor of information technology at Georgia Southern, will be the instructor.

The fee for the course is \$250 per person for USG employees and \$500 per person for everyone else. Participants do not have to live or work in Georgia in order to take the course.

There are a limited number of openings for the class, which will be filled on a first-paid, first-registered basis. To sign up, visit <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted> .

For more information on any of the Continuing Education programs offered by the University, email seminars@georgiasouthern.edu or call (912) 871-1763.

Cultural Book Club Discussions to begin at Georgia Southern University

AUGUST 14, 2006

The Multicultural Student Center at Georgia Southern University will host three Cultural Book Club Discussions throughout the fall semester on Sept. 7, Oct. 24 and Nov. 15.

“The book club is a way for participants to broaden their cultural scope by building a cultural reading list,” said Consuela Pender, director of the Multicultural Student Center. “Discussions, led by faculty and a best-selling author, will afford participants an opportunity to learn and share views on ethnic, international, and women and gender issues.”

The first book club discussion will be held during Cultural Diversity Week on Thursday, Sept. 7. “Sister Outsider: Essay and Speeches” by Audre Lorde will be presented by Nancy Malcom, associate professor of sociology. The book is a collection of Lorde’s work from the 70s and 80s. Lorde, who was one of the foremost writers on the issues of sexism, homophobia and race, wrote from her perspective as a woman, an African American, a lesbian, a feminist, a poet, a mother, a teacher and a cultural activist.

The second book club discussion will be held Tuesday, Oct. 24, during Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual, Transgender and Questioning (GLBTQ) Awareness Month. “Brotherhood: Gay Life in College Fraternities” will be presented by the editor, Shane L. Windmeyer. The book takes a provocative look at the concepts of brotherhood, masculinity and sexuality in college fraternities. Later that evening at 7 p.m. in the Russell Union Theater, Windmeyer will present the keynote address “Out & Greek: Being Gay, Lesbian or Bi-Sexual in College Fraternities” for GLBTQ Awareness Month.

The final book club discussion of the semester will be held Wednesday, Nov. 15, during International Week. “The Kite Runner” will be presented by Joseph Barjis, assistant professor in the Department of Information Technology. The novel, written by Afghan-American writer Khaled Hosseini, portrays the effect of politics on the people and culture of Afghanistan.

All book club discussions will be held at noon in Russell Union Room 2044. Free pizza will also be offered.

For more information, contact the Multicultural Student Center at 912-681-5409.